



News for Immediate Release
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DWR Finds Pipe Bombs in California Aqueduct

SACRAMENTO –On Tuesday, the Department of Water Resources found five pipe bombs in the California Aqueduct system in Southern California's San Bernardino County.

Two had been exploded and three were unexploded. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department retrieved the bombs and detonated the unexploded devices. The devices are described as small bombs, typically used by fishermen to create a concussion in the water which shocks fish and allows the fishermen to harvest them.

The pipe bombs were found along with 25 cars and other debris as water levels in the canal were lowered in conjunction with a planned outage for maintenance on another part of the State Water Project.

DWR has no reason to believe that the bombs were used for the purpose of sabotage. Similar devices have been found previously when water levels in State Water Project facilities are drawn down for maintenance and other purposes.

"As part of regular clean-up operations, DWR often finds material that people irresponsibly discard," said DWR Public Affairs Director Susan Sims.

The devices were found close to the end of the California Aqueduct's East Branch, near Hesperia –along Interstate 15, about 100 miles east of downtown Los Angeles.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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